



# Join Us In Measuring Progress

A Monthly  
Assessment Newsletter  
January 2003



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## MontCAS, Phase 1: The Iowa Tests

### Spring 2003 Iowa Testing Timeline

Jan. 27	Materials online for test administration and training
Feb. 6	Comprehensive Test Administrator Training via Video Conference
Feb. 7 and 10	Refresher Test Administrator Training via Conference Calls
Feb. 10 - Mar. 7	Test coordinators conduct and complete local training for test administration
Feb. 12	Riverside ships trailer packages to test coordinators
Feb. 17	Riverside ships materials to test coordinators
Feb. 24 - Mar. 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Test coordinators inventory and distribute materials</li><li>• Test coordinators fax requests for needed materials</li></ul>
Mar. 3 or beginning of test window	Grade 4 practice tests
Mar. 10-28	Test window including make up tests
Mar. 17 - April 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Test coordinators ship materials</li><li>• Districts submit authorized signature form to OPI</li></ul>
April 11-May 2	Districts receive local results-first in, first out
April 25 - May 17	Districts review reports and return Report Verification Form to Riverside
May 13	Tentative Score Interpretation Video Conference
June 9	OPI receives state results

### Iowa Test Administration Materials Online

In 2002, the "Montana Guide for Test Coordinators and Administrators" was published. This year, 2003, that "Guide" is being updated with specific pages rather than replacing the entire "Guide." Riverside will send the updated pages in the trailer packages. In addition, those pages are available online. You may choose to download and print the pages and insert them into your "Guide" yourself **OR**, if you prefer, you may

download and print the "Guide" with the pages already inserted. Below are links for both as well as for other essential materials.

- ✓ 2003 Updates for 2002 "Guide" to insert
- ✓ 2002 "Guide" with 2003 updated pages already inserted
- ✓ Answer document
- ✓ Alternate assessment scales
- ✓ Assessment handbook
- ✓ Comprehensive Test Administration Presentation
- ✓ Refresher Test Administration Presentation

## MontCAS, Phase 1

### February 2003 Test Administration Training Opportunities

#### Comprehensive Test Administration Video Conference—February 6

- Click here to see if you are registered and for time and place details.
- If you are registered for one of these sessions, you will need to bring the following materials with you. The materials are available online. Simply click on each to download and print it.
  - 2003 Updates for 2002 “Guide” to insert
  - Answer document
  - Alternate assessment scales
  - Assessment handbook
  - Comprehensive Test Administration Presentation

#### Comprehensive Test Administration Video Tapes—February 6

- Video tapes of the Comprehensive Training can be checked out from the OPI Resource Center after February 11
  - Contact Raelen Williard: 406-444-2082; rwilliard@state.mt.us
  - Copies may be borrowed by districts for seven days.
  - Districts may make copies of the video tapes.

#### Refresher Test Administration Conference Calls—February 7 and 10

- Participants will be notified by email about participation with phone-in details.
- If you are registered for one of these sessions, you will need to have the following materials with you for the conference call.
- The materials are available online; simply click on each to download and print it:
  - 2003 Updates for 2002 “Guide” to insert
  - Answer document
  - Alternate assessment scales
  - Assessment handbook
  - Refresher Test Administration Presentation

#### Online Power Point Presentations with Audio: Click on each to download

- Comprehensive Test Administration Presentation with Audio
- Refresher Test Administration Presentation with Audio

## MontCAS, Phase 2: Criterion-Referenced Test

#### Important Dates

Week of Jan. 13	Notification of schools selected to participate in the pilot
April 14 - 28	Pilot testing window
April 28-April 31	Teacher as Assessor Workshops

#### Criterion-Referenced Test Pilot

Thank you for the enthusiastic response to participation in the criterion-referenced test pilot. This voluntary response provided Measured Progress and the Office of Public Instruction a varied and large sample from which to select schools. Approximately 11,000 students each for reading and math will participate.

- 410 schools volunteered to participate in the pilot test program.
- 39,568 students are registered for the reading pilot test.
- 1,957 teachers registered to administer the reading pilot test.
- 38,742 students are registered for the mathematics pilot test.
- 1,959 teachers registered to administer the mathematics pilot test.

Measured Progress sent notification letters to all schools and classes who volunteered. The letters were mailed the week of January 13.

## MontCAS, Phase 2 (continued)

**“Teacher as Assessor” Workshops**

- Mark your calendars for “Teacher as Assessor” workshops in April. Measured Progress, the testing contractor for the criterion-referenced test, plans for two teachers from each school.

Monday, April 28:	Doubletree Hotel Missoula
Tuesday, April 29:	Copper King Inn Butte
Wednesday, April 30:	Holiday Inn Great Falls
Tuesday, April 29:	Carney Center Glendive
Thursday, April 31:	Sheraton Billings Hotel Billings

- Time and details will follow in letters with registration forms from Measured Progress closer to the dates.
- Mileage and substitute reimbursement and on site breakfasts and lunches are provided.

**Calculators****Spring 2003, Iowa Tests**

- As in 2001 and 2002, calculators are not allowed except when they are specified in a current IEP for specific subtest items. Specific details and conditions are included in the 2003 update for the 2002 “Guide” and will be covered in the video conference and conference call test administration training presentations.

**Spring 2003, Criterion-Referenced Test Pilot**

- Some mathematics test forms require the use of a calculator.
- Some schools have been selected to administer a mathematics test form labeled “Calculator.”
- Schools will be notified which form they will administer.
- If a school is administering a “Calculator” test form, calculators should be made available to students taking this form of the pilot test.
  - It is recommended that students use calculators that are familiar to them (their own or class calculators).
  - If calculators are not available for the number of students selected to participate in the pilot study, please call Nancy Hall, Program Assistant, at 1-800-431-8901 ext. 2167.

**Spring 2004, Criterion-Referenced Test**

Current plans are to include a portion of the mathematics test to be taken with the use of calculators.

**For further information, contact:**

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